Michael Kloss

Blaisdell Scholarship

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While you are selecting the few Bradford High graduates to receive this scholarship, I hope you take mine into special consideration. I am going to study criminal justice at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford starting next fall. Through most of my high school career I couldn’t decide on a career that I would like to pursue for the rest of my life. Becoming a part of law enforcement has always been an interest of mine, but this year it especially caught my attention. Officer Heil Bartlett started a new, unique club at Bradford Area High school that focused on criminal justice. I signed up expecting to have a good time in an interesting club. Since then however, my interest in this field has taken off. I was honored to eventually be named president of the club. Together, my colleagues and I took a deep look into various types of law enforcement and criminal justice. I also actively participated in fundraisers with the club to help raise money for our friend in need, Tyler Johnson, who was diagnosed with bone cancer. I received a good taste of the field I was getting into, and I really liked it. Needless to say, I finalized my decision that criminal justice was the career for me. Being as close to my family as I am, and how good the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford’s criminal justice field is, I decided to stay in my hometown for my education. Between the high price of a college education, and the economy in the shape that it has been in, anyone could use any extra money they can get to help out. It’s hard to argue a case on who needs the money more. I have a rather unique story however; my family has been in a financial struggle for a long time. My mother is a single parent of me, and my two younger sisters. She is currently working two jobs to keep a roof over our heads and food on our table. It’s going to be nearly impossible for her to help me out much financially as she also has my two younger sisters to worry about in the coming years. I am unaware as to how much this scholarship offers, but I do know that any amount of money helping with my costly education would be greatly appreciated. I am going to school to study something that isn’t just an interest or a hobby anymore; criminal justice is quickly becoming a passion of mine. I am already committed to working as hard as I can in college to earn my degree. I deserve this scholarship because financial support from my family is scarce, I am going into a field that I am really passionate about, and because I have a goal set that I refuse to not reach.